

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 2, 11, 24-26, 28 and 29, without prejudice; and amend Claims 1, 6, 12, 13, 16, 17 and 27 as indicated below. The status of all pending claims is as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A fluid flow stabilizer for use in a flow of fluid in a conduit between a turbulence creating device and a fluid control device, comprising:

a fluid conduit section having a first end for mounting said first end to said fluid conduit and a second end for mounting said second end to said fluid conduit, said fluid conduit section having a length, an internal diameter, and a fluid passage therethrough to allow said fluid to flow from said first end to said second end,

a flow straightening device positioned in said fluid conduit section, wherein at least a portion of said flow straightening device has a diameter less than said internal diameter of said fluid conduit section; section, and further wherein said flow straightening device comprises one or more longitudinally extending vanes, wherein at least portions of radially outer edges of said vanes are separated from said internal diameter of said fluid conduit section, such that a space is defined therebetween;

said fluid conduit section being constructed of a flexible material to absorb at least one of shock, vibration and ~~alignment~~ mis-alignment in said conduit.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Original) The fluid flow stabilizer of claim 1, wherein said fluid conduit section comprises a flexible metal hose.

4. (Original) The fluid flow stabilizer of claim 1, wherein said fluid conduit section comprises an elastomeric material.

5. (Previously Presented) The fluid flow stabilizer of claim 1, wherein said length of said fluid conduit section is less than five times said internal diameter.

6. (Currently Amended) A pipe flow stabilizer for use in a pipeline between a turbulence creating device and a fluid control device, comprising:

a fluid conduit section having a first end with a mounting arrangement for mounting said first end to said pipeline and a second end with a mounting arrangement for mounting said second end to said pipeline, said fluid conduit section having a length, an internal diameter, and a fluid passage therethrough to allow fluid to flow from said first end to said second end,

a flow straightening device in said fluid conduit section, wherein at least a portion of said flow straightening device has a diameter less than said internal diameter of said fluid conduit section; and further wherein said flow straightening device comprises at

least four vanes, with each vane arranged perpendicular to adjacent vanes, and wherein at least portions of radially outer edges of said vanes are separated from said internal diameter of said fluid conduit section, such that a space is defined therebetween;

said fluid conduit section being constructed of a flexible material to absorb at least one of shock, vibration and ~~alignment~~ mis-alignment in said pipeline.

7. (Original) The pipe flow stabilizer of claim 6, wherein said turbulence creating device and said mounting arrangement at said first end is configured to mount directly to an outlet of said pump.

8. (Original) The pipe flow stabilizer of claim 6, wherein said fluid control device comprises a valve and said mounting arrangement at said second end is configured to mount directly to an inlet of said valve.

9. (Original) The pipe flow stabilizer of claim 6, wherein said conduit comprises a flexible metal hose.

10. (Original) The pipe flow stabilizer of claim 6, wherein said conduit comprises an elastomeric material.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) The pipe flow stabilizer of ~~claim 11~~, claim 6, wherein said vanes are contained entirely within the length of said fluid conduit.

13. (Currently Amended) The pipe flow stabilizer of ~~claim 11~~, claim 6, wherein said vanes have a hydrodynamic ~~shape~~: shape including at least one curve.

14. (Original) The pipe flow stabilizer in claim 6, wherein at least one of said first mounting arrangement and said second mounting arrangement comprises a flange with a series of spaced bolt holes extending therethrough.

15. (Previously Presented) The pipe flow stabilizer of claim 6, wherein said length of said fluid conduit is less than five times said internal diameter.

16. (Currently Amended) A pipe flow stabilizer for use in a pipeline between a pump and a valve, comprising:

a pump connector having a first end with a first mounting arrangement for mounting said first end to said pump and a second end with a second mounting arrangement for mounting said second end to said valve, said pump connector having a fluid passage therethrough to allow fluid to flow from said first end to said second end, said pump connector having a linear fluid conduit section with a length, extending between said first

and second ends, and an internal diameter, said length being less than five times the diameter,  
and

a flow straightening device in said linear fluid conduit section of said pump  
~~connector.~~ connector, wherein said pump connector is constructed of a flexible material to  
absorb at least one of shock, vibration and mis-alignment in said pipeline, while imparting no  
thrust load to a remainder of said pipeline.

17. (Currently Amended) The pipe flow stabilizer of claim 16,  
wherein:

~~said pump connector is constructed of a flexible material to absorb at least one~~  
~~of shock, vibration and alignment in said pipeline, and~~ at least a portion of said flow  
straightening device has a diameter less than said internal diameter of said fluid conduit  
~~section.~~ section such that a space is defined therebetween.

18. (Original) The pipe flow stabilizer of claim 16, wherein said pump  
connector comprises a flexible metal hose.

19. (Original) The pipe flow stabilizer of claim 16, wherein said pump  
connector comprises an elastomeric material.

20. (Original) The pipe flow stabilizer of claim 16, wherein said flow straightening device comprises one or more vanes extending longitudinally in said conduit.

21. (Original) The pipe flow stabilizer of claim 20, wherein said flow straightening device comprises four vanes, with each vane arranged perpendicular to adjacent vanes.

22. (Original) The pipe flow stabilizer of claim 20, wherein said vanes are contained entirely within the length of said pump connector.

23-26. (Canceled)

27. (Currently Amended) A pipe flow stabilizer for use in a pipeline between a pump and a turbulence creating partially opened valve, comprising:

a fluid conduit section having a first end with a mounting arrangement for mounting said first end directly to an outlet of said pump and a second end with a mounting arrangement for mounting said second end directly to an inlet of said turbulence creating partially opened valve, said fluid conduit section having ~~a length, an internal diameter, and a~~ fluid passage therethrough to allow fluid to flow from said first end to said second end, said fluid conduit section having a length and an internal diameter, said length being less than five times the diameter,

a flow straightening device in said fluid conduit section, wherein at least a portion of said flow straightening device has a diameter less than said internal diameter of said fluid conduit section;

said fluid conduit section being constructed of a flexible metal material to absorb at least one of shock, vibration and ~~alignment~~ mis-alignment in said pipeline.

28-29. (Canceled).